RECEIVED **CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

AUG 2 1 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : BENJAMIN R. HARDING ET AL.

Confirmation No.: 4375

10,628,154 : July 28, 2003 : 3745 Serial No. : 10/628,154 Filed

TC/A.U.

: Igor Kershteyn Examiner

Docket No. : EH-10855 (03-171) Customer No. : 34704

Mail Stop Petition Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

In accordance with Applicants' continued duty of disclosure, the documents on the attached Form PTO-1449 are brought to the Examiner's attention. Copies of the non-US-patent documents are enclosed. Per MPEP 609 III A (3), also enclosed is a copy of the European Search Report in which said documents are cited.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 21-0279.

Respectfully submitted,

BENJAMIN R. HARDING ET AL.

By Ross J. Christie

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 47,492

(203) 777-6628 Tel: Fax: (203) 865-0297

Date: August 21, 2006

I hereby pertify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted this 21st day of August, 2006 to the USPTO,

PTO/SB/08A (07-05)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to	respond to a collection of informa	tion unless it contains a valid QMS control number		
Substitute for form 1449/PTO	Complete if Known			
	Application Number	10/628,154		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Filing Date	July 28, 2003		
	First Named Inventor	Benjamin R. Harding		
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Art Unit	3745		
(Use as many sheets as necessary)	Examiner Name	Igor Kershteyn		
Sheet 1 of 2	Attorney Docket Number	EH-10855 (03-171)		

			U. S. PATEN	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (Nimorn)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevan Figures Appear
		US- 3,698,750	10-17-1972	Eastcott et al.	
		^{US-} 4,417,855	11-29-1983	Jepsen	
		^{US-} 4,648,796	03-10-1987	Maghenzeni	
		^{US-} 4,832,574	05-23-1989	Woodwell et al.	
		^{US-} 4,836,750	06-06-1989	Modafferi et al.	
		US- 4,844,694	07-04-1989	Naudel	
		^{US-} 5,049,017	09-17-1991	Reynolds	
-		^{US-} 5,236,307	08-17-1993	Ng et al.	
		^{US-} 5,542,324	08-06-1996	Hormannsdorfer	
		US-			
		U\$-		<u> </u>	
		US-			
		US-		1	•
		US-			
		ນຣໍ-			
		US-	1		

		FORE	IGN PATENT DOCU	MENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pagas, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
		Cauntry Code ² "Number * "Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	ן
		JP 62251403 A	11-02-1987			
		DE 3400835 A1	07-18-1985			Г
,		DE 854604 C	11-06-1952			
		DE 213 421 C	09-27-1908			
						Г

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (options). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspb.gov or MPEP 901,04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. And of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.15 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of Information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The Information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Three will vary depending upon the inclindust case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or auggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

PTO/SB/05B (07-05)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0551-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

				o required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid QMS control number. Complete if Known		
Substitute for form 1449/PTO				Application Number	10/628,154	
INF	ORMATIO	N DIS	CLOSURE	Filing Date	July 28, 2003	
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		First Named Inventor	Benjamin R. Harding			
	(Use as many sheets as necessary)		Art Unit	3745		
(We so many areas as necessary)		Examiner Name	Igor Kershteyn			
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	EH-10855 (03-171)	

		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T²
		European Search Report for EP Patent Application No. 04254496.5	
	_		

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial it reterence considered, whether or not cliation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation it not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

considered. Include copy or this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including pathening, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the Individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Tradamark Critice, P.O. 80x 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: